

Message Text

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ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8828

INFO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 14893

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AODE, CRED, BF, XL, MX

SUBJECT: MODE-PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH RESIDENT IRS OFFICE AT NASSAU

REF: STATE 279233

1. GIVEN THE SIZE OF ITS GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY, THE MAGNITUDE OF ITS TRAVEL COMMITMENT, AND THE VOLUME OF ITS CASE LOAD, THE IRS/MEXICO CITY OFFICE HAS INDEED BEEN STRETCHED TOO THIN. THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY SHARES THE VIEW THAT THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE USG WILL BE SERVED IF AN IRS FIELD OFFICE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT NASSAU.

2. OF THE 12 COUNTRIES TO BE COVERED BY THE NASSAU OFFICE, IRS/MEXICO CITY HANDLES BUT SIX OF THEM: BAHAMAS, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, JAMAICA, HAITI AND CAYMAN ISLANDS, AND BERMUDA.

3. DURING 1975, IRS PERSONNEL ATTACHED TO EMBASSY MEXICO DEVOTED FOUR-TENTHS OF ONE MAN YEAR TO ITS CARRIBEAN COUNTRIES. DURING THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1976, FIVE-TENTHS OF A MAN YEAR WERE DEVOTED TO THIS AREA. UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES REGIONAL TRAVEL MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT GREATER, BUT TRAVEL TO NASSAU AFTER JULY, 1975 WAS RESTRICTED AT THE REQUEST OF EMBASSY/NASSAU, TRAVEL TO THE BAHAMAS WAS LIMITED ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM IRS/WASHINGTON, AND TRAVEL TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS BETWEEN DECEMBER 1975/MAY 1976

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WAS THWARTED BY CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVT.

4. CONSIDERING THAT LESS THAN ONE-HALF A MAN YEAR OF THE MEXICO CITY STAFF TIME HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO CARRIBEAN AFFAIRS, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO WITHDRAW AN AMERICAN POSITION WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE UNIT'S ABILITY TO COPE WITH THE CURRENT PUBLIC DEMAND FOR SERVICES. MOREOVER, THE WORKLOAD IN MEXICO CITY HAS BEEN GROWING STEADILY IN BOTH SIZE AND COMPLEXITY AND, IN THE EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT, WARRANTS NOT ONLY RETAINING THE EXISTING STAFF BUT STRENGTHENING IT.

5. BY LEAVING THE PRESENT STAFF INTACT, A HIGHER LEVEL OF GENERAL EFFICIENCY WILL BE ACHIEVED IN DEALING WITH THE MEXICO/CENTRAL AMERICA CASE LOAD. ADDITIONALLY, THE PACE OF THIS GROWTH CLEARLY WARRANTS THE ADDITION OF THE TWICE REQUESTED SECOND ASSISTANT REVENUE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE. THE EMBASSY WILL REPEAT ITS REQUEST FOR THIS SECOND ASSISTANT SHORTLY AND SHALL HOPE FOR PROMPT AND FAVORABLE ACTION BY IRS.

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